PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Prior Group Art Unit: 2653

Yasuhito SOMA et al. Prior Examiner: Paul W. Huber

Serial No.: Rule 1.53(b) Divisional of Serial No. 10/238,587

filed September 11, 2002

Filed: November 5, 2003

For: OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows: